

Senate Bill No. 268

CHAPTER 24

An act to add Section 42283.2 to the Education Code, relating to schools.

[Approved by Governor April 27, 1998. Filed with
Secretary of State April 28, 1998.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 268, Knight. Necessary small schools: Sierra Sands Unified School District.

Existing law defines a necessary small school as an elementary school with an average daily attendance of less than 101, exclusive of pupils attending grades 7 and 8 of a junior high school, maintained by a school district that maintains 2 or more schools, that meets other criteria involving combinations of distance and average daily attendance. Existing law requires the county superintendent of schools to make computations for each elementary and secondary school district that has fewer than 2,501 units of second principal apportionment average daily attendance and maintains at least one school that meets the criteria for a necessary small school.

This bill would deem Rand Elementary School to be a necessary small school and make the Sierra Sands Unified School District eligible to receive apportionments for the school pursuant to its status as a necessary small school. This bill would provide that if the average daily attendance of the Rand Elementary School exceeds 100, then the school would no longer be eligible to receive apportionments as a necessary small school.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) The Sierra Sands Unified School District is a large school district that serves pupils from a wide and varied geographic area. Within that district, Rand Elementary School has a pupil population of less than 30 pupils. Pupils, in kindergarten and grades 1 to 5, inclusive, who presently attend that school would have to travel long distances over hazardous terrain in order to attend other schools within the Sierra Sands Unified School District.

(b) In previous years the Sierra Sands Unified School District received considerable federal grants pursuant to Public Law 81-874, which subsidizes school districts serving military families. However, these federal grants have declined from one million six hundred



thousand dollars (\$1,600,000) in the 1974–75 fiscal year to eight hundred thirty-nine thousand dollars (\$839,000) in the 1995–96 fiscal year, and are expected to decline even further to approximately seven hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$775,000) in the 1996–97 fiscal year, and to continue to descend thereafter.

SEC. 2. Section 42283.2 is added to the Education Code, to read:

42283.2. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Rand Elementary School shall be deemed a necessary small school, as defined in Section 42283. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Sierra Sands Unified School District is eligible to receive apportionments for the Rand Elementary School pursuant to Section 42282.

(b) If the amount of average daily attendance of the Rand Elementary School exceeds 100, then that school shall no longer be entitled to receive apportionments as a necessary small school.

SEC. 3. The Legislature finds and declares that, due to the unique fiscal circumstances of the Sierra Sands Unified School District that are set forth in Section 1 of this act, a general statute cannot be made applicable within the meaning of Section 16 of Article IV of the California Constitution.

